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SIPDIS

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SUBJECT: DEMARCHE ON SUPPORT FOR THE IRAQ TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT DELIVERED

REF: SECSTATE 79107

¶1. Ambassador delivered reftel demarche to Minister of Foreign Affairs Qirbi on May 8. Qirbi reiterated ROYG support for the transitional government in Iraq, as expressed by President Saleh on April 10. In that statement, Saleh congratulated new Iraqi President Talibani and expressed Yemen's desire to improve relations with Iraq. The FM noted that an Iraqi delegation, perhaps headed by Prime Minister al-Jaffri, is expected to attend celebrations on May 22 in honor of the fifteenth anniversary of Yemen's unification.

Krajeski